

## Message Text

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: MORNING SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT REPORTS

1. ITALY: THE NEXT SIX WEEKS

EMBASSY ROME HAS OUTLINED FOUR POSSIBLE OUTCOMES OF THE  
JUNE 20-21 PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS.

--DESPITE THEIR DECLARATIONS TO THE CONTRARY, THE COM-  
MUNISTS MIGHT ACCEPT A LEFT-FRONT GOVERNMENT, IF THEY  
GET MORE VOTES THAN THE DC AND IF THE LEFT AS A WHOLE  
WINS A MAJORITY.

--IF THE JUNE 1975 ELECTION RESULTS ARE REPEATED, MANY  
OBSERVERS CONSIDER A DC-PSI ACCORD LIKELY, WITH THE  
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SOCIALISTS INSISTING ON SOME SORT OF PCI "ASSOCIATION."

--AN "HISTORIC COMPROMISE" (DC-COMMUNIST) SOLUTION IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE ELECTIONS IS CONCEIVABLE BUT UNLIKELY.

--A RETURN TO A "CLEAN" CENTER-LEFT COALITION (EXCLUDING THE COMMUNISTS) APPEARS TO BE AN UNREALISTIC PROSPECT.

EMBASSY COMMENT: THE COMMUNISTS ARE OFF AND RUNNING WITH A CAMPAIGN AIMED AT PRESSURING THE DC TO ACCEPT AN ACCORD WITH THEM. MANY IN THE DC WANT TO MAKE THE CAMPAIGN A REFERENDUM ON THE COMMUNIST QUESTION, WHILE MOST OTHER PARTIES ARE CONCENTRATING ON A RANGE OF ISSUES (THE ECONOMY, REFORMS, GOVERNMENT INEFFICIENCY AND SCANDALS) OFTEN HARMFUL TO THE DC. (CONFIDENTIAL) ROME 7477, 5/7.)

## 2. PORTUGAL

### A. THE RIGHT LICKS ITS WOUNDS

EMBASSY LISBON HAS DESCRIBED PPD AND CDS REACTIONS TO THE FACT THAT THE APRIL 25 ELECTIONS DID NOT PRODUCE THE SHIFT TO THE RIGHT THEY HAD EXPECTED.

--PPD LEADERS SAY THEY WILL MOVE BACK TO THE CENTER-LEFT, WHILE KEEPING PRESSURE ON THE SOCIALISTS TO FORM A COALITION WITH THEM.

--THE CDS, HOWEVER, HAS VOWED TO INFLICT A "SLOW DEATH" ON THE PPD IF THE LATTER DOES NOT ACCEPT AN ALLIANCE WITH THE CDS.

--BOTH PARTIES APPEAR WILLING TO SUPPLY THE VOTES OR ABSTENTIONS NECESSARY FOR A MINORITY SOCIALIST GOVERNMENT TO WIN A VOTE OF CONFIDENCE, IN RETURN FOR CONCESSIONS ON THE SHAPE OF THE PS PROGRAM.

EMBASSY COMMENT: THE PS AND THE TWO SMALLER PARTIES SEEM DISPOSED TO COMPROMISE, BUT AGREEMENT WILL BE DIFFICULT.

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IN MAKING CONCESSIONS, THE PS WILL TRY NOT TO ALIENATE ITS OWN LEFT. AN INFORMAL COMPROMISE BETWEEN THE PS AND THE PARTIES TO THE RIGHT MAY BE ALL THAT IS POSSIBLE AT THIS POINT.

### B. OTELO IS WOODED

AT A MAY 7 LISBON SYMPOSIUM OF THE MARXIST SOCIALIST INTER-

VENTION GROUP, LISBON AND RURAL WORKERS' GROUPS PETITIONED OTELO DE CARVALHO TO ACCEPT A PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDACY. OTELO DECLARED THAT HE HAD NOT RULED OUT SUCH A BID, BUT WOULD BE A CANDIDATE ONLY IF HE HAD "POPULAR SUPPORT."

EMBASSY COMMENT: OTELO'S EFFORTS, TO THE EXTENT HE CAN CAPTURE THE MILITARY FAR-LEFT, HAVE SOME POTENTIAL FOR DISRUPTING THE COHESION ARMY CHIEF OF STAFF EANES HAS BEEN BUILDING IN THE MILITARY. (CONFIDENTIAL) LISBON 3019, 5/7 AND LISBON 3058, 5/8.)

### 3. SPAIN MOVES TOWARD NATO, BUT WITH DELIBERATE SPEED

USNATO HAS IDENTIFIED THE FOLLOWING FACTORS AFFECTING PLANNING FOR THE MOVEMENT OF SPAIN TOWARD NATO MEMBERSHIP:

--WITH SPANISH-FRENCH MILITARY COOPERATION ALREADY AT AN ADVANCED STAGE, THE NEXT MAJOR STEP WILL INVOLVE DEVELOPING CLOSER RELATIONS WITH THE FRG.

--THE SPANISH ARE MORE INTERESTED IN THE EC THAN IN NATO AND CANNOT BE EXPECTED TO PRESS FOR NATO MEMBERSHIP BEFORE THE 1980 TARGET DATE FOR JOINING THE NINE.

--ALTHOUGH ALLIED ANTIPATHY TOWARD THE REGIME IS SOFTENING, SPANISH POLITICAL EVOLUTION HAS NOT YET PROMPTED QUALITATIVE CHANGES IN ATTITUDE.

AMONG LONG-TERM MEASURES TO INCREASE COOPERATION THE MISSION ENVISAGES:

--CONSULTATIONS AT THE MFA POLITICAL DIRECTORS LEVEL WITH THOSE ALLIES AGREEABLE TO SUCH MEETINGS;  
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--REVIEWING SECURITY PROCEDURES WITH AN EYE TO RELEASING HIGH-LEVEL US DOCUMENTS, AND SUBSEQUENTLY NATO MATERIAL, TO SPAIN; AND

--ENCOURAGING BILATERALS WITH OTHER ALLIES TO AVOID THE SEMBLANCE OF A CLIENT RELATIONSHIP WITH THE US.

MISSION COMMENT: WE SHOULD NOT HOPE FOR TOO MUCH TOO SOON. YEARS OF ISOLATION AND SUSPICION, STRONG DOUBTS ABOUT NATO IN HIGH QUARTERS, AND OBSTACLES TO INTERNAL DIALOGUE WITHIN THE GOS WILL NOT BE EASILY OVERCOME. (SECRET) NATO 2481, 5/7.)

### 4. INDIA AND PAKISTAN SCHEDULE TALKS

THE INDIAN MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS HAS ANNOUNCED THAT  
TALKS WITH PAKISTAN WILL BE HELD MAY 12 THROUGH 14 IN  
ISLAMABAD. DELEGATIONS AT THE TALKS WILL:

--BE LED BY THE FOREIGN MINISTERS OF THE TWO COUNTRIES;  
AND

--DISCUSS RESUMPTION OF CIVIL AVIATION, RAIL AND ROAD  
LINKS AS WELL AS RESTORATION OF DIPLOMATIC TIES.  
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